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RUSSIA.

Disappearance of pneumonia [plague] in Kolobovka.

[Translation.—Imperial ministry of foreign affairs.—First department.—August 25 to September 6, 1899.]

NOTICE.

The imperial ministry of foreign affairs has the honor to transmit herewith to the embassy of the United States the translation of an official communication concerning the disappearance of the acute pneumonia reported in the second half of the month of July last in the village of Kolobovka, district of Tsarev, Government of Astrakhan.

The EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES.

[Inclosure.]

[Translation of a communication appearing in No. 184 of the Official Messenger, dated August 24, 1899 (old style).]

As a continuation of the official communications in Nos. 171 and 178 of the Official Messenger the commission for taking measures against the plague announces to the public that on August 6 the president of this commission, His Highness Prince Alexander Petrovitch, of Oldenburg, in conformity with the decision of the commission taken on the 5th of August and sanctioned by His Majesty the Emperor, left for the place where the disease had broken out, and upon his return on August 22 furnished the commission with the following information:

The first case of the disease appeared on the 16th of July in the bourgade of Kolobovka (province of Astrakhan, district of Tsarev). Since that date there have been 24 cases and 23 deaths. The last death occurred on August 12, the last new case appeared on August 9, and since that day only 1 case remains, and this 1 noticeably convalescent. The disease was without a doubt introduced from without, but the place of its origin is not as yet ascertained.

The measures taken by his highness on the spot, independently of his investigations as to the character of the disease, consisted of the complete isolation of the borough of Kolobovka and the neighboring country by means of a sanitary barrier, of medical assistance to the people so isolated and to the inhabitants of the neighborhood, and, in addition, of an inquiry into the sanitary condition of the province of Astrakhan, which showed that, with the exception of Kolobovka, no cases of epidemic disease were to be found.

While these measures were being put into execution the disease continued to decrease. On August 3 there were fewer new cases and, as has already been said, they have ceased entirely since August 10.

As to the precise definition of the nature of the disease, there is to be called in the immediate future a special conference of the members of the council of medicine and of other experts, and this conference, presided over by his highness, will announce its conclusions as to the malady at Kolobovka.

The decision of this conference will be published in time to be of use.

Further concerning plague in Kolobovka—Report of a contagious disease in Samara.

ST. PETERSBURG, September 13, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you herewith copies and translations of two official communications sent to this embassy, with notes from the imperial foreign office, dated August 29, and August 30 (old style). The first communication concerns the sanitary condition of the village of Kolobovka, in Astrakhan, and the second the appearance of an epidemic in the city of Samara.

Respectfully, yours,

HERBERT J. HAGERMAN,
Chargé d'Affaires, ad interim.